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15 December 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. ALLEN W. DULLES
Office of the DCI

SUBJECT: Developments in the Willoughby Situation and Certain Recommendations

1. This memorandum is submitted in response to your request for a write-up of the information given to me orally by General Cabell on Friday, 8 December, immediately following his return from Japan where he had gone on a trip of brief duration with General Collins. I am including in this memorandum certain additional information concerning recent developments, all of which point up in my view to the conclusion that it would be most desirable for a very high ranking representative of General Smith, preferably yourself, to visit the Far Eastern Command in the relatively near future. This representative should bear with him the highest possible credentials in order to assure him of a good reception in the Far Eastern Command and guarantee that he will have the opportunity of working out a more satisfactory solution of the problems which are presently besetting the operatives of both OSO and OPC.

2. General Cabell reported that he and General Collins had two conferences with General MacArthur, General Willoughby having been present at the second conference but not the first. General MacArthur stated to General Collins that he recognized the importance of the mission of CIA and realized that in the discharge of its responsibility it was necessary for the CIA to do things that did not particularly appeal to him. He was prepared to be of assistance to the CIA, but he wanted to be certain that his staff was kept sufficiently acquainted with the activities of CIA in order to provide him with the necessary degree of protection to his own position, especially in his role as Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces (SCAP). In a private conversation between General Cabell and General Willoughby (which took place on the evening before the last meeting with General MacArthur) General Cabell had volunteered a statement to the effect that General Smith's arrival as Chief of the CIA was welcomed by all in Washington and that relationships between CIA and the military establishment should improve as a result of this development. Willoughby responded by saying he was very glad to hear of this, especially from General Cabell, but made no further comment at that time. On the occasion of the final meeting with General MacArthur, General Willoughby made some favorable comments about

General Smith,

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General Smith, and General MacArthur urged General Collins to bring back with him and deliver to General Smith a most cordial invitation to visit the Far Eastern Command. He said that he wanted General Collins to assure General Smith of the warmth of the welcome which he would receive and to tell General Smith that he believed it should be possible to iron out any difficulties which might exist. General Willoughby insisted at this meeting that he had no thought or desire to curtail CIA operations but that he was only interested in coordinating and being on notice of what CIA is doing.

General Cabell stated that it was his own personal estimate of the situation that Willoughby would continue to insist upon CIA's furnishing to him fairly detailed statements of its plans and activities, and he said that we might as well be prepared to go along with this requirement. He further stated that it would do no good whatever for us to solicit any directives or instructions from the Joint Chiefs of Staff or other Defense Department officials to General MacArthur on the subject of the CIA relationship. Even if such a directive or instruction were to be sent from the Pentagon to FEC, it would not accomplish any useful result. The only way to get anything done would be for General Smith or a representative of very considerable stature to visit the theater in person. (General Cabell stated that the Air Force escape and evasion drop operations, toward which we made a contribution of trained personnel and about which I have been concerned lest General Willoughby take violent exception, now appear to be out in the open and accepted by General Willoughby. General Willoughby even went so far as to say that these operations could be cited as an example of what might be done with and after proper coordination. General Willoughby must have made this remark with his tongue in his cheek in view of the fact that the Air Force drove ahead with this operation without prior clearance or full approval from General Willoughby. The point is that the Air Force was absolutely insistent and completely adamant on the grounds that these operations were essential for the protection of Air Force personnel and were a requirement which the Operating Commander of the Far Eastern Air Force refused to forego. He won his point.)

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